



ICLA

Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs

IOWA COMMISSION OF LATINO AFFAIRS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Fort Dodge Public Library 424 Central Ave, Fort Dodge, IA 50501

Commissioners Present

Alejandro Pino-by Phone
Lorena Gingerich
Jeannette Martinez
Michelle Reuss-by Phone

Commissioners Absent

Juan Rodriguez
Marlu Abarca

Public Members

Matt Winkel, Proteus Inc.
Monica Chavez, Proteus Inc.
Kathy Guillen, Early Head Start
Jael Gonzalez, Head Start
Melissa Garcia, State Monitor Advocate, IWD

Department of Human Rights Staff

Sonia Reyes-Snyder, Office of Latino Affairs

I. Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions

Call to order and introductions by Chair, Michelle Reuss at 10:03 AM.

II. Welcome new commissioner Lorena Gingerich

Lorena Gingerich is the newest appointed commissioner.

III. Public Comment

Jael Gonzalez provided information about the Early Head Start Program

Kathy Guillen gave a short overview of the services that Head Start program provides.

They both identified the following concerns from their Latino clients:

- Uncertainty regarding immigration procedures, practices and rights
- Transportation barriers
- Assistance with their basic needs
- Lack of information and resources in the Fort Dodge area.

Monica Chavez shared information about the new Hola Legal Clinic that will start in Fort Dodge, it will take place the 1st Thursday of every month at the First Methodist Church.

IV. Proteus, Inc. Presentation

Matt Winkel and Monica Chavez presented about services provided by Proteus, Inc. Proteus is a statewide agency that provides educational and health services to Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers in Iowa through their NFJP and Health Programs. Download their flyers [here](#) Proteus Inc. works very closely with Iowa Workforce Development and Iowa Legal Aid Proteus asked the commission to assist in spreading the word about their services.

V. Approval of minutes from February 23, 2017

Jeannette Brown moved for approval; Alejandro Pino second.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

VI. New DHR Board Representative nomination and vote

Jeannette Brown, Alejandro Pino and Michelle Reuss nominated Marlu Abarca

Michelle Reus moved for approval; Jeannette Brown second.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

VII. Approval of ICLA May, 2017 Report for DHR Board

Jeannette Brown moved for approval; Michelle Reuss second.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

VIII. Report from the Events Committee

1. Central Iowa Resource Fair & Celebration

Brown reported on the success of the resource fair. \$2725 was raised. It was suggested that the 2018 resource fair take place in eastern Iowa.

2. ICLA Scholarship to a Latino Student-Latino Unidos of Iowa

The Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs will use \$1,000 of the funds raised for scholarships and the rest will be used for the Iowa Latino Hall of Fame Ceremony.

Lorena Gingerich suggested that two \$500 scholarships will be give out, one to a male and one to a female in partnership with Latinos Unidos of Iowa during their Award Ceremony in September, 2017.

Michelle Reuss moved for approval; Jeannette Brown second

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

3. Iowa Latino Hall of Fame Ceremony

The ICLA will induct up to 4 individuals every year to the Iowa Latino Hall of Fame. This year, the ceremony will take place on October 7, 2017 at the Iowa Historical Building, where the plaques will be displayed.

ICLA will follow the same guidelines as the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame.

The press release, guidelines and nomination form will be released by the Office of Latino Affairs in May and the deadline will be July 1st.

The Selection Committee will be composed of 3 commissioners and 2 public members:

1. Jeannette Brown
2. Lorena Gingerich
3. Alejandro Pino
4. The commission recommended to ask Dawn Oropeza, Al Exito (Sonia will reach out to Dawn)
5. _____ The commission recommended to ask Monica Vallejo, Cedar Rapids (Alejandro Pino will reach out to Monica)

IX. Office of Latino Affairs Report & DHR Updates

Sonia Reyes-Snyder gave commission an overview of the educational forums facilitated in the last few months, budget cuts to the division and upcoming YEP, DHR Conference plans and Latino Day on the Hill 2017.

X. Next Meeting (date and location)

West Liberty Public Library

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

10:30 AM to 12:30 AM

XI. Adjourn

Alejandro Pino moved for approval; Lorena Gingerich second.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0